

## Foreword

A Draft EIR for the City of Carlsbad Sewer Master Plan and Carlsbad Municipal Water District (CMWD) Water and Recycled Water Master Plans was prepared and circulated for a 45-day public review beginning July 19, 2012 and ending on September 4, 2012 (EIR No. 12-01, SCH No. 2012021006). All written comments received on the Draft EIR during the public review period, responses to the comments, and any revisions to the Draft EIR have been incorporated into this Final EIR.

This Final EIR has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Division 13, Section 21000, et seq., [as amended in 2009] herein, CEQA) and the State of California CEQA guidelines, as amended October 23, 2009 (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000 through 15387). The purpose of the Final EIR is to provide the decision-making body, in this case the City of Carlsbad, public and quasi-public agencies and groups, and the general public environmental impact information relative to the proposed Sewer, Water, and Recycled Water Master Plans project. The City must consider the information contained in this Final EIR prior to approving the proposed project.

## Summary of Revisions Incorporated into the Final EIR

The Final EIR includes the Draft EIR, Technical Appendices, and copies of each public letter commenting on the Draft EIR and the City's responses thereto. Each public comment is assigned a comment number that corresponds to a response number. The Final EIR contains minor revisions, including clarifications and corrections. Where changes have been made to the Final EIR as a result of public comment, such revision is noted and detailed with ~~strikeout~~/underline in the text of the Final EIR, and where applicable, summarized in the response to comment.

Comments were received by the City from agencies and organizations regarding the potential impacts to cultural and biological resources and water quality associated with the construction of the capital improvement projects (CIPs) identified in the Master Plans. To respond to such concerns, the City has proposed to refine the project design features and mitigation measure Cul-1 in the Final EIR to further clarify the scope of the hydrology and water quality cumulative analysis, and how biological and cultural resources would be protected. Revisions were made to Chapter 2 Project Description, Section 4.1 Aesthetics, Section 4.3 Biological Resources, Section 4.4 Cultural Resources, Section 4.9 Hydrology and Water Quality, and revisions are also reflected in the Executive Summary and Chapter 4 Environmental Analysis.

No new information has been presented in the Final EIR that would require re-circulation of the Draft EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5(a). Specifically, no new significant environmental impacts would result from the project or from new mitigation measures proposed for implementation. The project would not result in a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact unless mitigation measures are adopted that reduce the impact to a level of insignificance. In addition, while the project design features and mitigation measure Cul-1 have been refined based on public comments received during public review to clarify how potential impacts would be reduced, no new feasible

project alternatives or mitigation measures considerably different from those analyzed in the Draft EIR have been identified that would clearly lessen any significant project impacts. Finally, the Draft EIR included adequate information for a meaningful public review and comment.